Dr. A. G. Menon.—You say that the Government have no objection. Is it an official committee or a non-official committee?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is a committee appointed by the Government.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Whether it will be an official committee or a non-official committee or a mixed committee?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I soppose it would be mixed.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I beg to withdraw the resolution on the assurance that a mixed committee would be appointed.

(*The resolution was withdrawn with leave.*)

4. Consideration of the Finance Committee report.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—In the light of the assurance, I withdraw.

(*Hence the following resolution was considered withdrawn*)

This Council recommends to the Government that the discussion of the report submitted by the Special Finance Committee be put off for the present, as the Members had not sufficient time to study the same and that the said report be considered at a special meeting of the Council to be convened at an early date."

5. Rural reconstruction in Cochin.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I rise to move a resolution to the effect that "*this Council recommends to the Government the appointment of a committee* (*the members of which will be named by the mover on the fate of the resolution being known*), *for the purpose of framing a comprehensive scheme of rural reconstruction for the villages of Cochin.*" I may, at the outset, state that, without a rural reconstruction scheme, all the labour that we do at the top is wasted. We, the intellectuals, the moneyed, are at the top of the social ladder and the work, that we do, must filter down unto the villages and should have a resting place there. But it would have been immensely better if we had begun from the foundations of village societies, and gone up towards the Legislative Councils. But things in this Country unfortunately take a topsy-turvy turn,and we begin at the top and go to the bottom. We have got no foundation. That we see in our social and political order. It is to remedy this that I have tabled this resolution. I know fully well the importance, the consequences and the advantages of village reconstruction schemes. I do not wish to take much time because we are on the last day and I want to give the others a chance. The condition of agriculture is of the first and prime importance in this land. That

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